

In the Claims

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims.

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for restricting use of a clipboard application in a multi-application computing environment, said method comprising:

receiving a copy selection associated with designated content of a source file being displayed by a source application;

determining whether the source file is a secured file, where the secured file cannot be accessed without a priori knowledge; and

preventing subsequent usage of the designated content in a destination application via the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

2. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a paste selection to provide the designated content to the destination application.

3. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 2, wherein the paste selection requests to paste the designated content to a destination file that is opened within the destination application.

4. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 2, wherein the copy selection is a copy command, and wherein the paste selection is a paste command.

5. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining operates to determine that the source file is a secured file based on security information provided by the source application.

6. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 5, wherein the security information pertains to the source document.

7. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing blank content to the clipboard application instead of the designated content when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

8. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 7, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

9. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 8, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a paste selection to provide the designated content to the destination application;

supplying the blank content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is secured file; and

supplying the designated content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

10. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing predetermined content to the clipboard application instead of the designated content when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

11. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 10, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

12. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 11, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a paste selection to provide the designated content to the destination application;

supplying the predetermined content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file; and

supplying the designated content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

13. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing scrambled content to the clipboard application instead of the designated content when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

14. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said preventing comprises:

storing the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

15. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 14, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a paste selection to provide the designated content to the destination application;

supplying the scrambled content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file; and

supplying the designated content from the clipboard application to the destination application in response to the paste selection when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

16. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for restricting use of a clipboard application in a multi-application computing environment, said method comprising:

receiving a copy selection associated with designated content of a source file being displayed by a source application;

determining whether the source file is a secured file, where the secured file cannot be accessed without *a priori* knowledge; and

preventing storage of the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

17. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:

storing alternate content to the clipboard application in place of the designated content when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.

18. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 17, wherein the alternate content is one of blank content, predetermined content and scrambled content.

19. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 17, wherein said computer-implemented method further comprises:

permitting storage of the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

20. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 16, wherein said computer-implemented method further comprises:

permitting storage of the designated content to the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is not a secured file.

21. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 20, wherein said determining operates to determine that the source file is a secured file based on security information provided by the source application.

22. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 21, wherein the security information pertains to the source document.

23 – 39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium including at least computer program code for restricting use of a clipboard application in a multi-application computing environment, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code from receiving a copy selection associated with designated content of a source file being displayed by a source application;

computer program code for determining whether the source file is a secured file, where the secured file cannot be accessed without *a priori* knowledge; and

computer program code for preventing subsequent usage of the designated content in a destination application via the clipboard application when said determining determines that the source file is a secured file.